

From: Harvey Cohen
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 2:50 PM
Subject: June 2 Decision

Dear Commissioner Abernathy:

Please do not go through with the June 2 decision to further deregulate the media. Whether in news or music programming, such deregulation, during both Dem. and Repub. administrations, has only benefited mega-corporations, not consumers, and caused less diverse views and voices and reporting to be heard by consumers. And to think this is being done with no public input! Whatever happened to the FCC mandate for the "public interest"?

I am absolutely behind the view expressed in Ted Turner's editorial yesterday in the Washington Post. Please take heed of that editorial and block the June 2 decision or at least hold public hearings on the matter.

Thanks for your consideration,
Harvey Cohen (a consistent voter)

From: meliflaw@lmi.net
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 2:51 PM
Subject: <No Subject>

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Powell;

The proposed raising of the cap on media ownership would be quite destructive to the spirit of our democracy, and I urge you to oppose it, now and in future.

In fact, the present cap has already lead to levels of concentrated power that are an obvious danger to democratic government. The citizens of this country gain no economic or social benefit from a company such as Clear Channel owning so many stations in so many markets. Such concentration allows a few individuals to determine what opinions, what news, what music, and what forms of expression vast numbers of Americans can hear and see, and to deny access to any voice which does share their views and economic interests.

The usual reason I hear for changing the ownership limits is that the new technology has rendered these limits irrelevant. However most people still get their information from broadcast and cable, only a minority from print and the Internet.

While satellite and Internet media will offer many new opportunities, they are intrinsically global in nature and are mostly capital intensive. Broadcast TV, broadcast radio, and newspapers are naturally local in nature, and radio is cheap to operate.

It is simply socially and economically healthier for these local media to be under local ownership.

Yours truly,

Melanie Lawrence
Oakland, California

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From: virginia bullers
To: KM KJMWEB
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 2:58 PM
Subject: Fw: Media Ownership Rules

----- Original Message -----

From: <vab@alltel.net>
To: <kjmweb@fcc.gov>; <mpowell@fcc.gov>; <kabernat@fcc.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2003 10:21 PM
Subject: Media Ownership Rules

> Before you vote on June 2nd to loosen media ownership rules, please take a moment to consider what effect such a move will have on program content.

>

> We know that television can be profoundly influential in the lives of innocent young children. It affects their perceptions, their world-view, their attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. It is also a sad reality that children spend more time with the television than at any other activity except sleep. But huge mega-conglomerates aren't going to be concerned about how the programming they are putting on TV influences these impressionable youngsters. -They're only going to be looking at their profit margins.

>

> Further deregulation will not mean greater opportunity for competition. Rather, it will mean the opposite: More control of the airwaves by the few, with even less accountability to the market than they demonstrate today.

>

> The concept of community standards is alien to the suits in New York. Their bottom-line programming philosophy means bottom-of-the-barrel programming, and quality be hanged.

>

> Locally-based station owners know better than network executives in New York and Los Angeles what is best for their communities.

>

> I urge you to fully consider what is truly in the public's best interest, as opposed to what is in the best interest of a hand-full of major conglomerates. Please do not relax the media ownership rules.

>

> Sincerely,

>

> Virginia Bullers

>

CC: Kathleen Abernathy

From: Klsnas@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 3:01 PM
Subject: (no subject)

dear commissioner abernathy,
as a citizen of the united states, i am outraged that large business and this gov't feels they can give away our airwaves for more profits and less control. i don not want a handful of companies controlling the news i receive and this is a huge step backward for democracy.

i also work in the music business and each time there has been de-regulation, there are buyouts and job losses. it also decreases the chances for many entertainers to get their product to the public which means they won't be able to get work and emply people. here in nashville, we have seen the ability of clear channel to buy out stations have a huge negative effect on the industry and the ability to break new acts and all of this has a huge trickle down effect.

this is a huge mistake to de-regulate even more. i hope the fcc will think again before the vote. it has been a shame that any open dialogue in the public arena has been squelched. total irresponsibility on the government's part as they sell the soul of gov't and the americans to big corporate interests.

thank you,
kathy anderson
716 hidden hill drive
hermitage, tn 37076
615-889-3930

From: Ethan Davis
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 3:14 PM
Subject: Deregulation of the Media

Dear FCC Commissioners:

I am writing to register my deep concern regarding the FCC's motion to dismantle the current regulations on media ownership. If the proposal passes it will concentrate almost all media outlets into the hands of a few monopolistic conglomerates. The lack of diversity in ownership will homogenize programming and gravely narrow the scope of editorial content. The citizens of this nation will have fewer sources than ever before for balanced perspectives on the news.

I passionately urge you to keep the current regulations in place. By doing so you will help preserve the kind of accessible freedom of speech that is the cornerstone of our democracy.

Sincerely,

Ethan Davis
912 6th Ave
Longmont, CO 80501

Do you Yahoo!?

Yahoo! Calendar - Free online calendar with sync to Outlook(TM).
<http://calendar.yahoo.com>

From: drrandy@baymoon.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 3:15 PM
Subject: Proposed Deregulations

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell, Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,
Commissioner Michael J. Copps, Commissioner Kevin J. Martin, and
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein,

By now you are well aware of the overwhelming outcry of American citizens who are deeply concerned about the proposed change in FCC regulations on media ownership. A free press is one of the foundations of our republic, and there is legitimate concern that concentrating the ownership of media in the hands of fewer and fewer (extremely wealthy) individuals and corporations will decrease the viewpoints that the American public is exposed to. I urge you to listen to the wishes of the American people by voting against these regulations.

Sincerely,

Randy Baker MD

CC: Commissioner Adelstein

From: Lar
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 3:18 PM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Commissioner,

I'm writing to say I am opposed to the upcoming proposal to change the ownership rules for broadcast stations and newspapers. This multiple ownership will create a monopoly of information that threatens a diverse, independent, and competitive media. The concentration of ownership is not in the interest of an informed citizenry necessary in a democratic society.

Thank you,
Larry Amyett Jr.
2720 Blue Ridge Dr
Mesquite, TX 75150
Days 214-413-6825
Evenings 972-270-0752

From: maryschild@juno.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 3:18 PM
Subject: television station ownership

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

Please do not relax the rules on television station ownership in America.

This will allow broadcast giants to own more local TV stations. Doing this will give the networks "monopoly" power, in that they will no longer respond to community pressure to provide programs that the local community find acceptable.

Thank you,
Mrs. Vedeckis
Metairie, LA 70003

96-98

From: javatown_us
To: Commissioner Adelstein, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Michael Copps, Mike Powell
Date: Thu, Jun 12, 2003 5:23 AM
Subject: Interesting vote on telephony.online

We need a successful implementation with the Triennial Review. Not drastic changes that will be fought in court for years. Minimalize all changes like Linesharing. It's bad for the Telecom Industry. Companies can pay lawyers to fight it out or they can invest in telecom. VOTE FOR INVESTING IN TELECOM!!!

Which of the following will most significantly impact the telecom industry's revival in the years ahead?

16%	Capex spending increases
41%	Regulatory resolution
22%	Industry consolidation
21%	New technology deployment
0%	50% 100%

From: JaneGermani
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 11:41 AM
Subject: The vote on June 2

The American people are watching your vote on June 2. Please do not let us down by voting for the consolidation of the media in this country. Democracy depends upon a free press and history will judge this commission on whether it sends a blow to that free press!

Sincerely,

Jane and Paul Germani

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From: Kalan Brown
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 11:43 AM
Subject: Consolidation Opposition

Dear Commissioner Abernathy:

Please note, I stand opposed to consolidation of the airwaves & will continue to oppose any FCC regulation which limits access to the airwaves or puts the control of the media in the hands of the elite or few. I am a Social Studies teacher, but worked as a journalist for years & majored in telecommunications & journalism at University of Georgia (home of the prestigious Peabody Awards & a consistently top-ranked school of journalism.) Please continue to allow MORE access for the PEOPLE rather than less. Diversity & the ability to hear MANY voices on-air, rather than few, is vital to a democracy. Even in the small communities like mine, people are watching & people CARE about your work. Thank you for your time. I know you are busy & have an important job to do.

Sincerely,
Kalan Brown
8620 River Moss Ct.
Ball Ground, GA 30107

--- Kalan Brown
--- kalan14b@earthlink.net
--- EarthLink: The #1 provider of the Real Internet.

From: Chris Struble
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 11:44 AM
Subject: June 2 Relaxing of Media Ownership Rules

Commissioners,

I am writing to express my concern over the upcoming June 2 meeting of the commission where it is being proposed to relax media ownership rules and permit another wave of media mergers.

It is vital to American democracy to disperse media ownership as widely as possible so that a diversity of viewpoints will be represented. Media diversity is already on the decline in this country. The lack of a national debate on whether this country should have gone to war with Iraq is a case in point. Large media companies like Fox and Clear Channel Communications have excluded voices opposed to war. Increasingly what we see on television represents media of the corporations, for the corporations, and by the corporations. The proposed deregulation would only accelerate this process.

For democracy to survive, diversity in media and debate are essential. Please do not hand over our democracy to the corporations. Our country and our people deserve better.

Chris Struble
 3742 N Chatterton Way
 Boise, ID 83713
 (208) 229-6427
 cstruble@ctcweb.net

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From: Steven Thrasher
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 11:45 AM
Subject: Please don't vote to allow media companies to own larger shares!

Dear Sirs and Madams:

I know I don't have any big corporate money to donate to anyone's campaign, but please listen to me all the same as I am a duly concerned American. Please don't allow the big media companies to own a larger share of the media pie! America NEEDS a variety of independent news sources (print, broadcast and electronic), and that is already in great danger! One of the things this very administration has often outlined that is negative about other countries (most notably Iraq) is that in totalitarian autocracies, they only have one media outlet. We're close to only having FOUR in the this country, and if you vote to let them own more of the pie, that will be consolidating the pie even further!

Please, for the the future of the FREE PRESS, don't vote to let them own more! They already control too much!

Most sincerely,
Steven W. Thrasher
Brooklyn, NY

From: Larry Rabinowitz
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 11:46 AM
Subject: Change of rules on Media Ownership

Dear Commissioner:

We vigorously protest the Commission's failure to allow adequate and open public input on the proposal to allow unacceptable Further Media consolidation.

The Commission's action has been arbitrary.

It has failed to fulfill it's mission.

Blanche and Larry Rabinowitz
266 Littleton Quarter
Williamsburg, Va 23185

lar999@cox.net

From: Jeff Ward
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 11:46 AM
Subject: Rule-change vote

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

I am among the many Americans who are distressed about the proposed regulation changes, which would lead to greater media consolidation in the U.S.

I'm also disturbed about the proposed vote itself: since a wide public debate has not yet been allowed on a topic that would greatly affect the public, I'd like to suggest that you defer the vote, which even to its proponents must not be urgent.

Part of that wide public debate might include the release by your office of the wording of the rule changes.

Sincerely,

Jeff Ward
 New York City

From: M. A. Cruse
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sat, May 31, 2003 11:55 AM
Subject: My opinion on the FCC proposed change to Broadcast Ownership

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

I am on the FCC website and am unable to find a place to register my opinion about this proposed change. Therefore I am writing you.

I can see that those in the communications business interests want further de-regulation. However, when they were unregulated in the past, they showed that information provided by their media would be slanted to further their aims.

The issue is not merely one of granting large media businesses a license to make a greater profit. I thought that the FCC was supposed to be ensuring the freedom of information available in the USA. Concentrating the information sources in the hands of a few does not ensure true freedom.

Additionally, there is no guarantee that TV stations will continue to be "free". I am currently serviced by a cable company, owned by a communications giant, which raises their rates 1-2 times per year. And, because of lack of competition in my service area, I have no other choice of cable provider. I consider this a classic microcosm example illustrating what happens when business has an area monopoly.

So PLEASE open up your mind and the FCC to public hearings on this important proposed change.

Sincerely,

M. A. Cruse
Lake Mary, FL

From: consciousliving@att.net
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Thu, Jun 5, 2003 7:27 PM
Subject: Oppose media deregulation and demand public hearings

Dear FCC Commissioners and Chairman Powell,

cc: my members of Congress

I urge you to vote to protect the public interest by dropping the FCC's plans to end critical safeguards designed to ensure diversity of media ownership and to delay the unnecessarily rushed vote on media ownership scheduled for June 2nd.

Sincerely,
Constance Betton

Newport Beach, CA 92663

From: mkingsports@yahoo.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Thu, Jun 5, 2003 7:36 PM
Subject: Please oppose media deregulation and demand public hearings

Dear Chairman Powell,

cc: FCC Commissioners
cc: Sen. Wyden

I urge you to vote to protect the public interest by dropping the FCC's plans to end critical safeguards designed to ensure diversity of media ownership and to ensure that there are public hearings to discuss how such proposals will affect Oregon and the nation.

Sincerely, Mark King
mark king
1627 nw elgin
bend, OR 97701

From: mkingsports@yahoo.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Thu, Jun 5, 2003 7:36 PM
Subject: Please oppose media deregulation and demand public hearings

Dear Chairman Powell,

cc: FCC Commissioners
cc: Sen. Wyden

I urge you to vote to protect the public interest by dropping the FCC's plans to end critical safeguards designed to ensure diversity of media ownership and to ensure that there are public hearings to discuss how such proposals will affect Oregon and the nation.

Sincerely, Mark King
mark king
1627 nw elgin
bend, OR 97701

From: caloradgal@aol.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Thu, Jun 5, 2003 7:49 PM
Subject: Please Act to Stop Media Monopolies

Senator John McCain
 U.S. Senate
 241 Russell Senate Office Building
 Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McCain,

I urge you to tell the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) not to weaken the rules that help preserve competition and diversity among the owners of America's newspapers and radio and TV stations.

As you know, the FCC is reviewing rules currently for media ownership and is likely to allow big corporations to dominate ownership of media in a particular city or town. If that happens, one company may be allowed to own the local newspaper, several TV and radio stations and the cable TV system in the same community. There would be fewer owners of networks, stations and newspapers nationwide.

Media ownership would be concentrated among fewer companies and the public's ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints would be compromised. Plus, it likely would result in higher costs for businesses that advertise in local media, and those costs likely would be passed onto consumers.

The FCC is expected to vote on whether to change the rules on June 2. The public comments submitted to the FCC by individuals have been opposed to media consolidation overwhelmingly. Americans understand that the public interest is not being served by deregulation that reduces competition.

Please tell the FCC to reinstate its traditional media ownership rules for the sake of competition and democracy.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maria L Therese
 6831 N Tripp Ave
 Lincolnwood, Illinois 60712-4723

cc:

Senator Richard Durbin
Senator Peter Fitzgerald
Representative Jan Schakowsky
Senator Ernest Hollings
FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell
FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps
FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein